Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) A method for creating a channel through a cardiac septal material located in a body of a patient, said body having a body vasculature, said method using a surgical device comprising a substantially elongated member, said elongated member defining a proximal region ~~and a longitudinally opposed distal region,~~ , a longitudinally opposed distal region and a lumen extending therebetween, said distal region defining a distal region outermost surface, said distal region further defining at least two openings, said openings being substantially longitudinally spaced apart from each other and each extending between said lumen and said distal region outermost surface, said surgical device also comprising an active electrode for delivering a radio-frequency electrical current to said cardiac septal material ~~, said surgical device being usable with a grounding pad~~ operatively ~~coupled to said active electrode for providing a return conduction path for said radio frequency electrical current~~, said active electrode being operatively coupled to said elongated member substantially adjacent said distal region, said method comprising:

introducing said surgical device into said body of said patient;

delivering a radiopaque fluid outside of said device through said lumen and said openings in a manner such that said radiopaque fluid has a substantially uniform distribution along said distal region;

assessing a position of said device by imaging said radiopaque fluid;

positioning said active electrode at a first desired location in said body of said patient, said first desired location being substantially adjacent said cardiac septal material; and

~~operatively positioning said grounding pad on said patient; and~~

creating said channel through said cardiac septal material by delivering said radio-frequency electrical current from said active electrode ~~to said grounding pad, said radio frequency electrical current being delivered through said cardiac septal material~~.

19. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein said radiopaque fluid has fluid properties such that when said radiopaque fluid is delivered outside of said device, said radiopaque fluid has said substantially uniform distribution substantially along said distal region ~~wherein positioning said active electrode comprises~~ staining ~~a region of said cardiac septal material substantially adjacent said first desired location~~ and ~~monitoring under fluoroscopy~~ the position of ~~said surgical device relatively to said region of~~ said cardiac ~~septal material~~.

20. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 18 further comprising advancing said active electrode through said channel and out of said material to a second desired location ~~located substantially adjacent said second material surface~~.

21. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 20 wherein said surgical device comprises at least one depth marking and at least one radiopaque marker and wherein advancing said active electrode comprises monitoring said at least one of depth marking and said at least one radiopaque marker.

22. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 18~~claim 20~~, wherein said at least two openings define a distalmost opening and one or more proximal openings located proximally relative to said distalmost opening, said distalmost opening having a larger cross-sectional area than at least one of said one or more proximal openings for delivering said radiopaque fluid substantially uniformly substantially along said distal region ~~surgical device further includes a pressure sensor operatively coupled to said elongated member for determining pressure in said body of said patient substantially adjacent said distal region, said method further comprising measuring pressure substantially adjacent said second location using said pressure sensor~~.

23. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 20, ~~claim 22~~ wherein said surgical device comprises at least one depth marking and at least one radiopaque marker, said method further comprising ~~and wherein measuring~~ pressure ~~substantially adjacent said second location is performed after confirming the position of~~ said ~~pressure sensor at said second location by~~ monitoring under fluoroscopy at least one of said depth marking and said radiopaque marker to assess the position of said active electrode after said active electrode has been advanced.

24. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 18 wherein introducing said surgical device comprises introducing said surgical device into said body vasculature.

25. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 24 wherein introducing said surgical device into said body of said patient comprises inserting said surgical device into a dilator and a guiding sheath positioned in said body vasculature.

26. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 25 wherein said surgical device includes a device radiopaque marking and at least one of said dilator and said sheath includes a dilator/sheath radiopaque marking, and wherein

positioning said ~~energy delivery device~~ active electrode comprisinges aligning said device radiopaque marking and said dilator/sheath ~~auxiliary~~ radiopaque marking.

27. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 25 further comprising maintaining said surgical device substantially fixed relatively to said cardiac septal material and advancing said dilator and said sheath over said surgical device.

28. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 25 further comprising advancing substantially jointly said dilator, said sheath and said surgical device towards said second location.

29. (Cancelled).

30. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim ~~19~~18 wherein said channel is created though region of ~~said cardiac septal material includes~~ a fossa ovalis of a heart.

31. (Cancelled)

32. –51 (Cancelled)

52. (Cancelled).

53. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 18~~claim 52~~, wherein said cardiac septal material comprises cellular tissue and wherein said radio-frequency electrical current heats said cellular tissue so as to vaporize intracellular water and cause a subsequent cell lysis.

54. (Cancelled).

55. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein said proximal region includes a proximal region material and said distal region

includes a distal region material, said distal region material being substantially softer than said proximal region material.